

Bozeman Pass Wildlife Channelization ITS Project

MONTHLY REPORT for invoicing period 6/1/2006 to 6/30/2006

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Introduction

This report summarizes the overall progress, schedule, issues, and expenditures for the Bozeman Pass Wildlife Channelization ITS Project for the invoicing period from ***June 1, 2006 to June 30, 2006***. The specific objectives of this project are as follows:

1. Determine the effective Interstate speed reduction range with best potential to reduce animal vehicle collisions;
2. Determine ITS options for increasing driver vigilance and decreasing speeds to reduce animal vehicle collisions; and
3. Deploy and evaluate driver responses to various ITS options in a driver simulator environment and on Interstate 90 between Bozeman and Livingston, Montana.

Progress

All tasks have been successfully completed under budget. The final report was delivered to MDT on June 30, 2006.

Because the project was accomplished under budget, WTI submitted an addendum as requested by FHWA and MDT for a contract extension to accomplish additional tasks beyond the original work scope and contract end date (which was June 30, 2006). This addendum proposed to apply the remaining budget toward the following:

- *Purchasing one portable dynamic message sign (DMS) for use on Bozeman Pass:* Purchasing a DMS to deliver seasonal wildlife advisory messages on Bozeman Pass is justified given results from three different components of this study. The field speed study, driver survey, and driver simulator study indicated that drivers increase their awareness and decrease speeds in response to seasonally-applied wildlife advisories distributed via DMS. Given that the permanent DMS on the Pass are not always functioning properly, the purchase of an additional portable DMS ensures the advisory messages can be posted seasonally in hopes of reducing animal-vehicle collisions (AVCs) on the Pass. The total cost for one portable DMS is \$14,600.
- *Extending wildlife monitoring efforts on Bozeman Pass:* The remaining funding (\$18,898.78 minus June 2006 expenses) will be dedicated to the continuation of wildlife monitoring on Bozeman Pass to bolster field data collection for evaluating wildlife fencing that will be installed at the Montana Rail Link (MRL) bridge. Analysis of the pre-fencing field data revealed that one year of post-fencing data

collection would be inadequate to confidently draw inferences regarding the fencing effects on AVCs and wildlife movements under I-90. Committing the remaining funding to the post-fencing field data collection will allow for a longer post-fencing monitoring period. Final results from this evaluation study will be incorporated into a comprehensive report regarding both the ITS and fencing measures applied in an effort to reduce AVCs.

Discussions regarding the scope and schedule changes carried through the end of the month (and into July). The final addendum and extension is anticipated in July.

Expenditures

Table 1 below summarizes expenses for the June 2006 invoicing periods, cumulative expenditures to date, and the total budgeted amounts for each expense category. In June, salary and benefits included wages for 6 employees involved in finalizing the report and preparing the proposed addendum.

Table 1. June 2006 expenditures, cumulative expenditures through June 2006 and the original estimated budget for the Bozeman Pass Wildlife Channelization ITS Project.

<i>Categories</i>	<i>June 2006 expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative expenditures through June 2006</i>	<i>Budgeted</i>
Salary	\$1,851.41	\$44,339.37	\$44,991.00
Benefits	\$568.27	\$11,689.16	\$13,947.00
Travel		\$540.04	\$4,200.00
Communication		\$449.28	\$500.00
Contracted Services		\$7,615.38	\$5,000.00
Supplies/Equipment		\$11,666.33	\$12,292.00
Subcontract (wildlife monitoring)		\$79,182.35	\$100,050.00
Participant support		\$1,671.98	\$4,000.00
Indirect Costs	\$50.40	\$19,826.41	\$23,020.00
TOTALS	\$2,470.08	\$176,980.30	\$208,000.00